Andhra Pradesh are included in RPDS. These areas correspond to 120 erstwhile blocks presently under 382 mandals.

(c) The targets and achievements on the points mentioned above at part (a) relating to Andhra Pradesh is as under:

Progress of Implementation in Andhra Pradesh under RPDS as per reports received till 15.2.1994.

		Target	Achievement
(i)	Opening of additonal FPSs.	316	362
(ii)	Issue of additional ration cards	—	1,33,756
(iii)	Storage capacity	—	1,15,000 (hired)
(iv)	No. of FPSs covered under doorstep delivery system	8233	8233
(v)	No. of FPS level Vigilance Committee constituted.	8233	8233
(vi)	additional items distributed through PDS	Iodised salt, tea, textbooks, Janta sarees, soaps, pulses, dhotis.	

Release of foodgrains by the State Government for PDS

634. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advised the State Governments to release foodgrains for PDS wherever necessary to maintain easy availability of foodgrains; and

(a) if so, whether this decision has helped in checking the steep-rise in prices of all essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Central Government makes bulk allocations of foodgrains for the Public Distribution System to State Governments/UT Administrations from month to month taking into account the availability of stocks with the Central Government, inter se requirements of States/UTs and seasonal requirements. Internal distribution of foodgrains allocated by Central Government is a matter which falls within the administrative jurisdiction of State Governments and UT Administrations. Central Government has advised State Governments/UT Administrations to increase the allocations made by them to areas covered under the Ravamped PDS since these areas are chronically food deficit. Release of food grains for the Public Distribution System has a moderating effect on their open market prices.

Rise of wholesale price Index

635. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the wholesale price index for essential commodities registered a sharp rise towards the end of August, 1993 by 0.5% and further rise during the months of September and October, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for the same; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMLUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Wholesale Price Index Numbers of essential commodities and their percentage variation during the months of August, 1993 September, 1993 and October, 1993 are shown in the